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*Francine E. Smith*  
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jc525 U.S. PTO  
09/521367  
03/08/00

**FILING WITHOUT EXECUTED DECLARATION - 37 CFR 1.53(f)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket No. 00146/LH

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.53(b), transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor(s): Residence (City & Country)  
Hitoshi KARASAWA Hachioji-shi, Japan

Title:  
"TROCAR SHEATH TUBE"

Priority Claim (35 U.S.C. 119) is made, based upon:

Japanese Patent Application No. 11-066368 filed March 12, 1999  
Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-044548 filed February 22, 2000

Enclosed herewith are:

[X] Specification (Description, Claims, Abstract): Pages 1 - 53; Number of claims 1 - 23  
[X] TO BE POST-FILED: SIGNED DECLARATION  
[X] 13 Sheets of drawings, Figures 1 - 34 [X] Formal    [ ] Informal  
[ ] Certified copy (ies) of priority document(s) identified above  
[X] Information Disclosure Statement including Form PTO-1449  
[ ] Preliminary Amendment  
[ ] Verified Statement(s) Claiming Small Entity Status  
[X] Receipt Postcard

	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	Calculations
Total Claims	<u>23</u>	-20 = <u>3</u>	x \$18.00 =	\$ <u>54.00</u>
Independent Claims	<u>2</u>	- 3 = <u>0</u>	x \$78.00 =	\$ <u>-</u>
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			+ \$260.00 =	\$ <u>-</u>
		BASIC FEE		\$ <u>690.00</u>
		Total of above Calculations		\$ <u>744.00</u>

To the extent not tendered by check, authorization is given to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 during pendency of the application, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1378. Duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

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By:

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Encs.